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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/802,885	03/18/2004	Haruhiko Murata	Q80543	5201

23373 7590 09/29/2005
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EXAMINER

OWENS, DOUGLAS W

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2811	

DATE MAILED: 09/29/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/802,885	Applicant(s) MURATA ET AL.	
	Examiner Douglas W. Owens	Art Unit 2811	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 20 July 2005.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-37 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1,3-6 and 8-37 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 2,7 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

2. Claims 2 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by US Patent No. 6,815,126 to Fey et al.

Regarding claims 2 and 7, Fey et al. teach a wiring laminate portion including dielectric layers (Fig. 1; (14a, 14b)) containing a polymeric material (Col. 6, lines 63 – 67) and conductor layers (12; Col. 5, lines 9 – 14) laminated alternately so as to form a first main surface out of one of said dielectric layers; and

a plurality of metal terminal pads disposed on said first main surface,

wherein:

each of said metal terminal pads (Fig. 2; (40)) has a structure in which a layer containing Cu (28) is disposed on a side of said first main surface and a layer containing Au (Fig. 9; (64)) is disposed in an outermost surface layer portion of said metal terminal pad, while a layer containing Ni (62; (platinum group metal)) which has a P content not higher than 3% (the percentage of P content by weight is 0%) by weight is disposed between said layer containing Cu and said layer containing Au. The Ni layer would

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have inherently served the function of a barrier layer, since the material is identical to that of the claimed invention.

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 1, 3 – 6 and 8 – 37 are allowed.
4. The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter: The prior art of record does not teach, alone or in combination, a wiring board including “an electroless Ni-plated layer having a P content not higher than 3% by weight.” The prior art does not teach “a platinum-metal-based electroless plated layer is disposed as a barrier metal layer between said Cu-plated layer and said Au-plated layer.” The prior art does not teach, “an Ni-P-based electroless Ni-plated layer in contact with said Cu-plated layer and a P-barrier electroless metal plated layer for blocking or suppressing P-diffusion.” The prior art does not teach “a layer containing Ni and P in contact with said layer containing Cu and a layer containing Ni and B...”. The prior art does not teach, “an Ni-P-based electroless metal plated layer thinner than said Ni-B-based, electroless Ni-plated layer are disposed as barrier metal layers between said Cu-plated layer and said Au-plated layer.”

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 2 and 7 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Douglas W. Owens whose telephone number is 571-272-1662. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Steven H. Loke can be reached on 571-272-1657. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).



Douglas W Owens
Examiner
Art Unit 2811

DWO